

REMARKS

Entry of the foregoing and reconsideration of the subject application, as amended, pursuant to and consistent with 37 C.F.R. §112, are respectfully requested in light of the remarks which follow.

Claims 102, 104 – 112 are pending, with claims 102 and 108 – 112 being independent, and stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as purportedly indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

Claims 102 and 108 - 112 have been amended, at the suggestion of the examiner, to change “its salts, and each one of its pure enantiomeric forms or in racemic mixture or in variable composition” to the alternative and singular form, specifically to “or one of its salts, or each one of its pure enantiomeric forms or in racemic mixture or in variable composition.” Also, claims 105 – 107 have been amended, at the suggestion of the examiner, to change “including its salts, and each one of its pure enantiomeric forms or in racemic mixture or in variable composition” to the alternative and singular form, specifically to “or one of its salts, or each one of its pure enantiomeric forms or in racemic mixture or in variable composition.”

Additionally, claim 102 has been amended to avoid confusion in the definition of n, changing “n is between 2 and 3” to “n is 2 or 3.”

The Examiner has indicated that claims 102, 104 – 112 would be allowable upon overcoming the 35 U.S.C. 112 rejections. Thus, in view of the foregoing amendments, withdrawal of the rejections under 35 U.S.C. 112 and further and favorable action in the form of a Notice of Allowance is believed to be next in order. Such action is earnestly solicited.

Attorney's Docket No. 017753-113

Application No. 09/270,006

Page 8

The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the below-listed telephone number, if it is believed that prosecution of this application may be assisted thereby.

Respectfully submitted,

BURNS, DOANE, SWECKER & MATHIS, L.L.P.

Date: May 10, 2004

By: T. D. Boone
Travis D. Boone
Registration No. 52,635

P.O. Box 1404
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1404
(703) 836-6620